

Appln No. 10/760248
Amdt. Dated: March 05, 2007
Response to Office Action of January 12, 2007

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of January 12, 2007 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claims 1 and 4 are amended to specify that the printhead has an array of inkjet nozzles formed on a nozzle substrate, and that the shield is arranged alongside the uncovered nozzle substrate so as to protect the inkjet nozzles. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, at page 8, lines 13-18 and page 25, lines 9-15 of the present specification; and

dependent claims 2 and 3 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application, nor nay new issues to the prosecution of the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claims 1 and 4, and dependent claims 2 and 3, is not taught of suggested by any one or more of previously cited Silverbrook '513, Silverbrook '109 and Moore and newly cited Silverbrook (US 6,443,555), for at least the following reasons.

In the Response to Arguments section of the present Office Action, the Examiner contends that the openings in the shield plate of Silverbrook '513 results in the nozzle areas being open to printing, and therefore contends that the shield plate is alongside an uncovered printing surface.

As discussed above, independent claims 1 and 4 have been further amended to clearly recite the "shield arranged alongside the uncovered nozzle substrate of the printhead". It is respectfully submitted that this amended recitation makes it abundantly clear that the claimed shield can in no way cover the nozzle substrate of the printhead, such that one of ordinary skill in the art clearly understands that the arrangement disclosed by Silverbrook '513 does not read on the claimed arrangement because the shield plate of Silverbrook '513 is clearly covers the nozzle substrate of Silverbrook '513.

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It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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